

KANEGASAKI SISTER CITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
June 6th, 2017 - 4 PM @ BANGS CENTER

MEMBERS PRESENT: Aaron Kropf (Chair/Amherst High School), Nancy Pagano (Treasurer/Staff Liaison, Amherst Senior Center), Andy Steinberg, (Select Board Liaison), Helen MacMellon (Secretary, Amherst Senior Center), Tina Swift and Cindy Harbeson (Jones Library), Denise Boyd (Amherst Middle School), Abida Adnan, Naomi Elliott, Will Stenzel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carly Jane Watson

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Helen

MINUTES APPROVED from May 9th meeting.

ELECTIONS: Aaron

Aaron reported that he will be resigning as chairperson as of June 30th. The committee elected Abida Adnan as our new Chairperson effective July 1, 2017. Also, elected were Will Stenzel as Vice Chair, Nancy Pagano as Treasurer and Helen MacMellon as Secretary.

UPDATE – TENTATIVE KANEGASAKI VISIT to AMHERST, OCT.2017?

There was a continuation of last month's discussion on the tentative fall 2017 visit from Kanegasaki including their mayor and a small delegation. Most members were concerned about our ability (financial and otherwise) to host a visit in Oct. 2017. Andy agreed arrange speaking with Daniel in Japan to delicately express the committee's reservations. One idea was a possible skype conference call with Abida, Andy and Paul Bockelman speaking with Daniel as Kanegasaki's representative.

TREASURY/FUNDRAISING-

Committee members discussed whether there were any town funds available for the committee or for postage for committee business? Abida said she would check with Town Manager, Paul Bockelman.

MAILING LIST-

To help with fundraising, Andy and Denise said they would try to start a mailing list from this year host families contact information.

2018 KSCC VISIT to KANEGASAKI-

Nancy suggested we start thinking about who will be on our delegation for the upcoming 2018 visit. She mentioned there could be a focus for the visit such as a famers exchange or sharing information on recycling or solar power.

2018 STUDENT VISIT to KANEGASAKI-

Denise continues to work with ITD about arranging a trip package for Amherst students to visit Kanegasaki in the summer of 2018.

STUDENT/ HOST FAMILY SURVEYS-

Abida has created a draft survey that perhaps could be used on a trial run basis.

Abida said that she and Denise are emailing about getting host family and student input from a feedback survey to improve future visits. Abida would ideally like to get input from the Kanegasaki students and their families as well but this will be trickier to organize.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, SIZE AND TERM LIMITS-

Andy mentioned term limits, membership size and quorum issue still being decided at the town government level.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/ARCHIVES - Nancy and Aaron mentioned that any relevant Kanegasaki information can be submitted to our archives c/o Cindy in Special Collections.

NEXT MEETING- Tuesday, Sept. 19th @ 4 PM at the Amherst Senior Center

Meeting adjourned: 5:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Helen MacMellon, Secretary